Use of Public Address System with Telephone Lines[1]

By W. H. MARTIN and A. B. CLARK

SYNOPSIS: The combination of the public address system and the telephone lines makes it possible for a speaker to address, simultaneously, audiences located at a number of different places. Such a combination has been used in connection with several public events and a description is given of the system as used on Armistice Day, 1921, when large audiences at Arlington, New York and San Francisco joined in the ceremonies attending the burial of the Unknown Soldier, at the National Cemetery, Arlington, Virginia.

More recently the public address system has been used in conjunction with telephone lines to attain two-way loud-speaker service. This arrangement permits the holding of joint meetings between audiences in two or more locations, separated by perhaps thousands of miles, in such a manner that speakers before each of the audiences can be heard simultaneously by the other audiences. A demonstration of two-way operation was given at the mid-winter convention of the American Institute of Electrical Engineers in February, 1923, and took the form of a joint meeting between 1,000 members in New York and 500 in Chicago.

The electrical characteristics of any telephone line which is to be used in conjunction with loud-speaker equipment must receive special attention. In commercial telephone service the main requirement is understandability, while with the loud-speaker naturalness of reproduced speech is very important. People are accustomed to hearing through the air with very little distortion and naturally expect the same result with loud speakers. A satisfactory line for this purpose must show freedom from transients, echo effects, etc., as well as good uniformity of transmission over the proper frequency range.

The public address system, apparatus and methods has also been applied to radio broadcasting. The combination of the public address system with lines and radio makes it possible for one speaker to address enormous numbers of people located all over the country.—*Editor.*

THE public address system which is described in the preceding paper by I. W. Green and J. P. Maxfield, was developed and first used for the purpose of extending the range of the voice of a speaker addressing an audience. With the aid of this system enormous crowds extending from the speaker's stand to points a thousand feet and more distant have in reality become an audience and have easily understood the speaker whose unaided voice covered only that portion of the crowd within a hundred feet or so from him.

When this system, consisting of a high quality telephone transmitter, distortionless multi-stage vacuum tube amplifiers, powerful loud speaking receivers and projectors, had so shown its capabilities in reproducing speech sounds, a logical extension of its application was to use it with telephone lines. By connecting the transmitting and receiving elements of the public address system through a suitable

[1] Presented at the Midwinter Convention of the A. I. E. E., New York, N. Y., February 14–17, 1923. Published in the *Journal of the A. I. E. E.* for April, 1923.

telephone line a system is provided whereby a speaker can address an audience at a distant point. Also with a complete public address system at the point where the speaker is located, connected by lines to receiving elements of the public address system located at one or more distant points, the speaker is enabled to address a large local audience and to be heard simultaneously by audiences at one or more remote points. This last arrangement was first used on Armistice Day, 1921, when audiences at Arlington, New York and San Francisco joined together in the ceremonies attending the burial of the Unknown Soldier at the National Cemetery at Arlington, Virginia.

By means of the public address system, the meeting of this Institute at New York, at which this paper is presented, is attended and participated in by Institute members at a meeting in Chicago. This is the first occasion on which complete public address systems installed at meetings in two cities have been connected together by telephone lines so that speakers at each meeting address the local and distant audiences simultaneously.

With the transmitting element of the public address system working into the radio transmitter of a broadcasting station and with the receiving elements of the system connected to the output of radio receiving sets, a system is provided whereby a number of people can be reached by each radio receiver.

The combination of these wire and radio communication channels with the elements of the public address system is, therefore, without limit in the number of persons who may be reached simultaneously by one speaker. Such combinations may prove extremely serviceable for occasions of nation-wide interest and importance.

The public address system apparatus has been used not only for transmitting speech sounds but also for music, both vocal and instrumental. The paper[2] describing the public address system has pointed out that the requirements for such a system are that for a wide frequency range it be practically distortionless, that is, transmit and reproduce with equal efficiency all frequencies in that range. This requirement must apply likewise to lines which are used with the loud speaker system. It has been found that a circuit which transmits without material distortion the frequency range from about 400 to 2000 cycles, can be used with the public address system to reproduce speech sounds which are fairly understandable under favorable conditions, although sounding unnatural. In general it is important to extend this range at both ends in order to improve the intelligibility of the sounds and increase the naturalness. For vocal and for some

[2] Green and Maxfield, "Public Address System."

types of instrumental music the melody can be reproduced with the above frequency range, but these tones also are lacking in naturalness. Since some of the musical instruments are used to produce tones three and even four octaves below middle C, it is evident that the proper reproduction of music requires a further extension of the lower limit of the transmitted band than does speech. While the fundamentals of the higher musical tones lie in general in the range mentioned above, it is the harmonics in musical tones which distinguish those produced by different instruments and which give what musicians term "brilliance." The true reproduction of many musical selections requires the distortionless transmission of a frequency band of from about 16 cycles to above 5000 cycles. Many musical selections, however, employ only a part of this range and accordingly can be satisfactorily reproduced by systems not transmitting the whole range. Also, even with slight distortion obtained with somewhat narrower ranges, reproductions may be given which are agreeable to many popular audiences.

Line Requirements

In general the same line requirements which make for satisfactory transmission of speech over commercial telephone circuits also make for satisfactory transmission when telephone circuits are associated with loud speakers. There is this difference however. The loud speakers tend to make the line distortion much more noticeable and serious. Speech transmitted over a particular telephone line is, in general, more difficult to understand when listening to loud speakers than when listening to telephone receivers.

In commercial telephone service the main requirement is intelligibility while, with the loud speaker, the naturalness of the reproduced speech sounds is very important. People are accustomed to hearing transmission through the air with very little distortion and naturally expect the same result with loud speakers.

The above constitute the reasons why, for transmitting voice currents over telephone lines with loud speakers, it is necessary to pay unusual attention to the electrical characteristics of the lines. Evidently when music is to be transmitted, particularly music of a fairly high grade, it is necessary to place even more severe electrical requirements on the lines.

An analysis of what constitutes the electrical requirements of a telephone line which make for good transmission, particularly when loud speakers are employed, will now be given.

In the first place, as explained above, it is essential that a suffi-

ciently broad frequency range be transmitted. As explained in another paper[3] it is not sufficient that a telephone circuit transmit sustained alternating currents within a given frequency range. It must also transmit short pulses of alternating currents within the proper frequency range without introducing oscillations of its own or "transient effects." This requires that loaded circuits for loud speaker use have a high cut-off frequency and hence have the frequencies of the predominant natural oscillations high. It has been found that when the cut-off frequency of loaded circuits is about 5000 cycles, good results are secured with loud speakers.

The two types of telephone circuit which best meet the requirements of transmitting a broad band of frequencies, both when sustained and when applied in short pulses, are non-loaded open-wire lines and extra-light loaded cable circuits. These are suitable for transmission over very long distances. For transmission over short

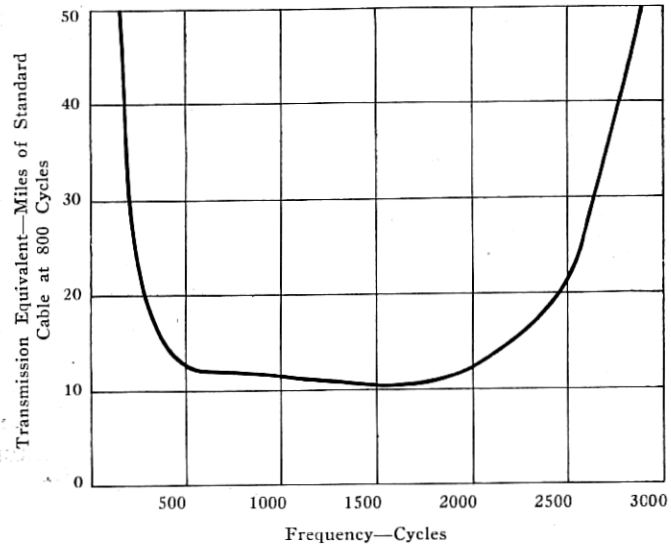

Fig. 1—Transmission Characteristic of Transcontinental Circuit—New York to San Francisco.

distances, say from one point in a city to another point in the same city, non-loaded cable circuits equipped with distortion networks or attenuation equalizers for equalizing the attenuation, give good results.

A good idea of the range of frequencies which can be transmitted

[3] Clark, Telephone Transmission Over Long Cable Circuits, *Journal of A. I. E. E.*, January, 1923. Also Bell System *Technical Journal* for January, 1923.

over high grade telephone circuits can be secured from Fig. 1, which shows the transmission efficiency at different frequencies for the New York-San Francisco circuit. This circuit is a non-loaded No. 8 B. W. G. open wire line equipped with twelve telephone repeaters and is 3400 miles long. Its frequency characteristic meets very well the requirements for easy understanding of voice transmission although it causes some loss of naturalness.

The frequency range which can be transmitted with approximately constant efficiency is limited at the lower end by the fact that composite sets are employed in order to make it possible to superpose direct current telegraph circuits. The elimination of these composite sets would make it possible to improve the transmission of low frequencies and thus improve the operation of the circuit in connection with loud speakers. The resulting improvement, however, would not

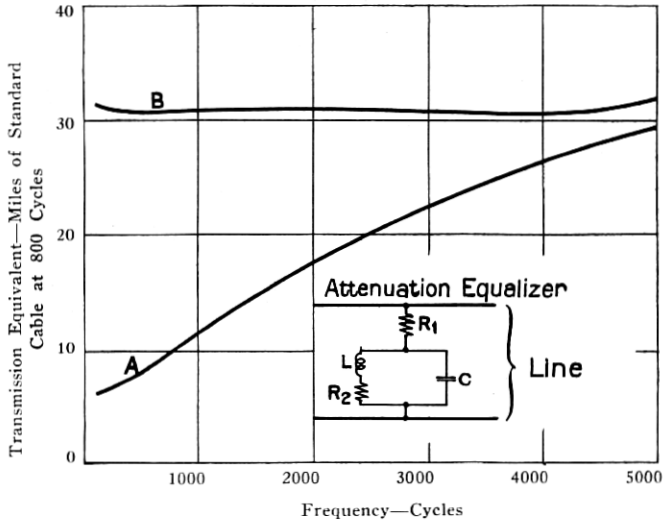

Fig. 2—Transmission Characteristic of No. 19 Gage Non-Loaded Cable Circuit.

A—Without Attenuation Equalizer.
B—With Attenuation Equalizer.

be of importance for commercial telephone service and would render it more difficult to avoid noise on circuits exposed to induction from paralleling power or telegraph circuits.

At high frequencies the range is limited because these same wires are equipped with apparatus to permit super-position of multiplex carrier telegraph circuits above the voice range. This limitation also

is not important for commercial telephone service although it is of importance for loud speaker use. To raise the upper limit of the voice transmission range would require giving up some of these facilities.

Fig. 2 will give an idea of how the distortion introduced by a length of non-loaded cable can be corrected by employing distortion networks or attenuation equalizers. This figure shows the transmission frequency characteristic of about 10 miles of non-loaded No. 19 A. W. G. cable. Curve *A*, in the figure, shows the characteristic when uncorrected, while Curve *B* shows the characteristic for the circuit when equipped with an attenuation equalizer.

After choosing the proper types of telephone circuits for use in connection with loud speakers, there remains to be considered a number of other important matters.

The maintaining of the telephone power within proper limits at different points in the circuit is very important. The power must not be allowed to become too weak, otherwise the extraneous power induced from paralleling circuits would tend to obliterate the telephone transmission. On the other hand, the telephone power must not be amplified to such an extent that the telephone repeaters will be overloaded or severe cross talk be induced into paralleling circuits.

To keep the telephone power throughout the circuit between the above limits, requires careful study and adjustment. For handling regular telephone connections, the circuits are laid out and equipped with repeaters at proper points so that each circuit will be able to handle the varying volumes applied at the terminals when different subscribers are connected without getting into serious difficulties. When loud speakers are employed it is necessary to maintain the volume at the terminals of the toll lines at least within these limits and it is preferable to do somewhat better than this.

With the public address system, the high quality transmitter which picks up the sound at the sending end is usually associated with an amplifier whose adjustment is varied, depending on the output of voice currents from the transmitter. In order to obtain the proper adjustment of this amplifier, it is necessary to have some means for quickly indicating the volume of transmission. For this purpose, there has been developed a device which is called a "volume indicator." This consists of an amplifier detector working into a direct-current meter. With this volume indicator connected across the output of the transmitter amplifier, the volume of transmission delivered to the line is indicated by the deflections on the meter. By adjusting the amplifier, therefore, to keep the deflections of this meter reason-

ably constant at some deflection determined by previous calibration, it is practicable to keep the telephone power within the required limits. Obviously, this same device may also be employed to keep the telephone power constant at any other point in the system.

While the necessity for keeping the power applied to the toll lines within proper limits cannot be over-emphasized, it should also be noted that this is not sufficient. It is also essential that all parts of the toll circuit, including the repeaters, be maintained at prescribed efficiency so that the power levels at all intermediate points in the circuit will also be kept within proper limits. Long telephone lines are designed with special emphasis on this matter of constant efficiency so that, in general, no special precautions are required when using these circuits in connection with loud speakers.

In another paper, [4] the "echo" effects which may occur on long telephone circuits are explained. When setting up two-way circuits for loud speaker use, it is necessary to pay particular attention to effects of this sort. Furthermore, there is another source tending to produce echoes in circuits arranged for two-way use with loud speakers. This is the tendency for the sound delivered from the loud speaker projectors to enter the sensitive transmitter and be returned to the distant end of the circuit as an echo. Owing to the relatively slow velocity of transmission of sound through air the lag in such an echo may be great enough to be serious, although the line is a short one with high transmission velocity. It is, therefore, evident that this coupling through the air between the loud speaker projector and the transmitter must be kept small. If a very sensitive transmitter arranged so that a speaker may stand several feet away from it is employed, this problem becomes even more difficult.

There is one thing more that remains to be considered: the necessity for special operation. When a large number of people are assembled at some point to hear an address delivered at a distant point, it is evident that delay in establishing the connections cannot be tolerated. It is, therefore, necessary to establish such connections ahead of time and it is usually also necessary to set up spare circuits for use in case of failure of the regular circuits. A special operating force is required for checking up the circuits, establishing the connections when required, and making the necessary adjustments. Rehearsals are necessary on important occasions to insure proper functioning of the circuits and proper co-ordination of the handling of the circuits with the programs at different points.

[4] Clark, *loc. cit.*

Typical Circuit Combinations of Public Address System and Lines

Following are a number of typical combinations of the public address system and telephone lines. The combinations by means of which one-way service may be rendered, are given first, following which certain combinations for giving two-way service are discussed.

By one-way service is meant service in which no provision is made for anyone in the distant audience to talk to the place where the speaker is located. Two-way service provides for speakers at either of two or more points addressing all of the other points. This is similar to the two-way service rendered by regular telephone circuits.

Fig. 3 shows the circuit arrangement which would be used when a speaker at one point in a city, for example, at his office, is to address

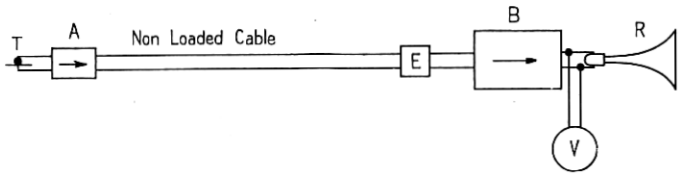

Fig. 3—One-Way Connection to Point in Same City.

an audience at another point in the same city. A high quality close talking transmitter T, together with a fixed gain single-stage amplifier A, are provided at the point where the speaker is located. This combination is designed to deliver to the line the same amount of power as a commercial type substation set. Connecting this point with the point at which the audience is gathered is a non-loaded cable circuit. To correct for the distortion in this cable circuit, an attenuation equalizer E is provided. The apparatus at the point where the audience is located is the equipment of the public address system without the transmitter and its associated amplifier. In Fig. 3, B is the amplifier for delivering sufficient power to the group of loud speaker projectors indicated by R. A volume indicator V associated with the amplifier B is used in maintaining constant the volume of sound delivered from the projectors.

Fig. 4 shows the circuit combination required when a connection is to be established to a distant city where the loud speaking receivers are located. In the city where the speaker is located, connection is made to the toll office by means of a non-loaded cable circuit equipped with an equalizer similar to Fig. 3. A volume indicator V_1 is associated with the amplifier C_1 at the toll office to enable proper adjust-

ment of amplifier C_1 to be made so that the power delivered to the toll line will be within the proper limits. As explained above if the volume at the toll office is allowed to become too great, the telephone repeaters on the toll line will be over-loaded and serious distortion will result, while if the volume is allowed to become too weak, extraneous noise

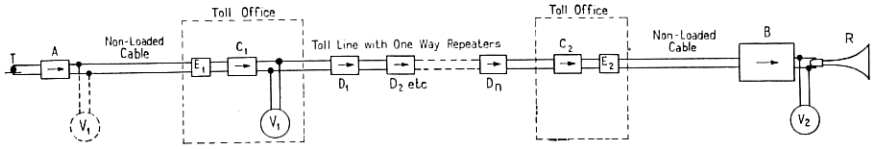

Fig. 4—One-Way Connection to Point in Distant City.

and crosstalk will tend to obliterate the direct transmission. If a distant talking transmitter is used for the speaker, a multi-stage adjustable amplifier is associated with it. In this case the volume indicator is located at the output of this amplifier as shown by the dotted lines in Fig. 4. When the volume indicator is employed at this point it is necessary to take into account the loss introduced by the non-loaded cable and the equalizer E_1, together with the gain of the repeater C_1, in order to deliver volume within proper limits to the toll line. The toll line, shown equipped with repeaters D_1, D_2, etc.,

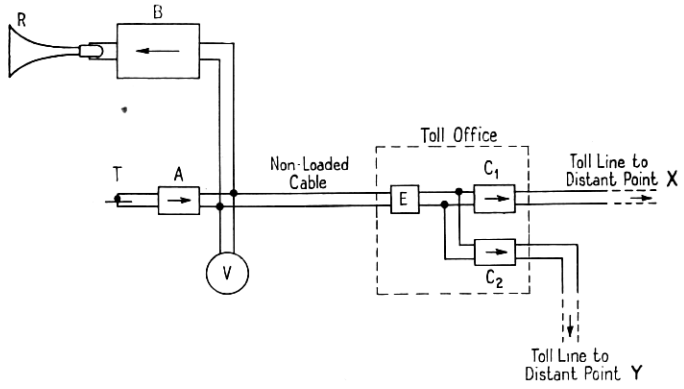

Fig. 5—One-Way Connection for Addressing Local and Distant Audiences Simultaneously.

extends to the toll office in the distant city. At this point the amplifier C_2 is located, together with another equalizer E_2, for correcting the distortion in the local non-loaded cable circuit. The apparatus at the point where the audience is located is similar to that shown in Fig. 3.

Fig. 5 shows the circuit combination employed when a local address is to be given, while at the same time the same address is delivered to one or more distant points. In order to allow the local audience to hear the address by means of the loud speakers, the power amplifier B supplying energy to these is bridged across the output of the amplifier A associated with the transmitter T. A volume indicator V, connected across the circuit at the point where the bridge is made, makes it possible to maintain constant volume both for the local loud speakers and for the transmission applied to the toll lines by suitable adjustment of amplifier A. At the toll office means are indicated for connection to two distant points X and Y. Owing to the fact that amplifiers C_1 and C_2 are one-way devices, no inter-actions can occur between lines X and Y or between these lines and the local loud speaking system. The arrangements for reaching the distant points X and Y are similar to the one illustrated in Fig. 4.

All of the circuit arrangements which have so far been described are arranged simply so that a speaker may address one or more local or distant points. When it is desired that the speaker and the audience at the sending end also be able to hear a speaker at the distant point, more complicated arrangements are required.

Fig. 6 shows a circuit arranged for such two-way service, the line being operated on the four-wire principle, *i. e.*, two separate transmis-

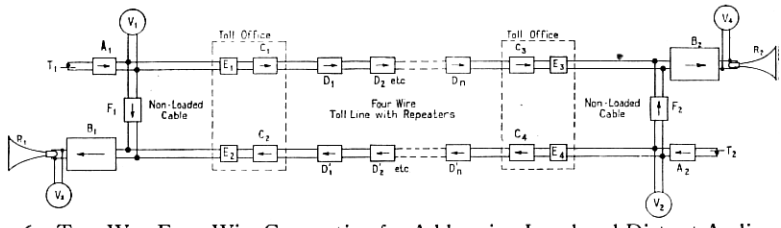

Fig. 6—Two-Way Four-Wire Connection for Addressing Local and Distant Audiences

sion paths are provided, one for transmission in each direction. The circuits connecting transmitter T_1 with the projector group R_2 and transmitter T_2 with the projector group R_1 are similar to the circuit in Fig. 4. By-pass connections F_1 and F_2 are added at the two ends which allow part of the output of each transmitter to pass into the local loud speakers. These by-pass connections are so arranged that transmission can pass only in the proper direction. Two volume indicators are provided at each end. Referring to the left-hand terminal, volume indicator V_1 is provided to insure that power is supplied to the toll line within the proper limits of volume, as explained above.

V_3 is provided to facilitate adjustment of the by-pass circuit F_1 and of amplifier B_1 so as to deliver proper volume from R_1 both for the local talking and for the reception of the addresses from the distant end of the circuit. The volume indicators V_2 and V_4 at the right-

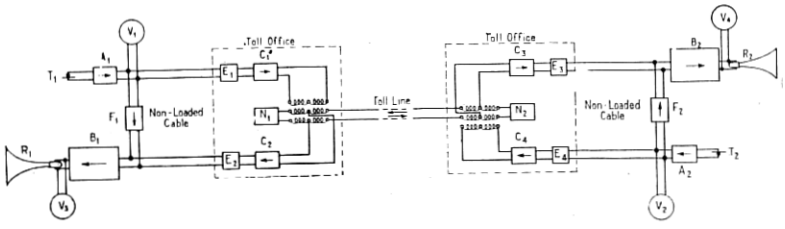

Fig. 7—Two-Way Two-Wire Connection for Addressing Local and Distant Audiences.

hand end of the circuit have functions similar to those of V_1 and V_3 respectively.

Fig. 7 is similar to Fig. 6 with the exception that the toll line is of the two-wire type. At each end of the toll line, which may, or may

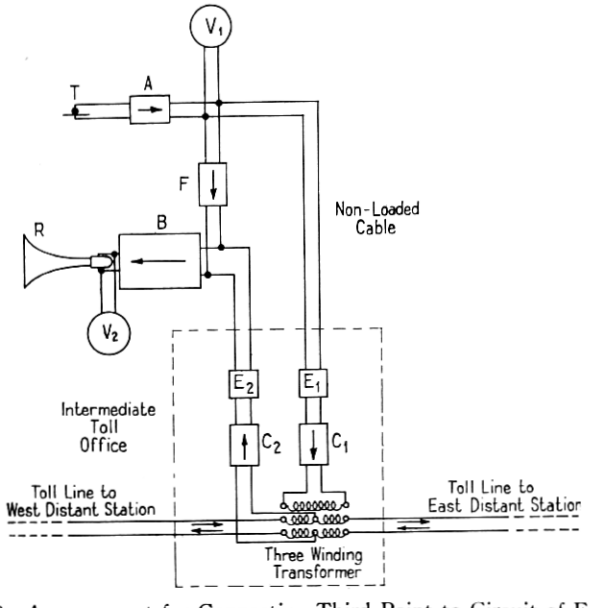

Fig. 8—Arrangement for Connecting Third Point to Circuit of Fig. 7.

not, contain two-way repeaters, transformers and networks N_1 and N_2 are placed for converting the two-wire circuit into a four-wire circuit. The equalized cable circuits at the two ends thus form two

sides of short four-wire circuits. The conditions of balance between the networks and the toll lines prevent more than a very small amount of the direct transmission from each local transmitter from entering the local loud speading receiver circuit at the points where the local circuits connect to the toll line. Practically all of the transmission from transmitter T_1 to projector group R_1 and from transmitter T_2 to projector group R_2 is delivered through the adjustable by-pass circuits F_1 and F_2, respectively.

For connections requiring to and fro conversations between three or more points, all of which may be equipped with loud speakers, intermediate points may be connected to a two-wire telephone circuit by employing the arrangement shown in Fig. 8. A three-winding transformer is inserted in the toll line which is so constructed that the impedance which it introduces into the circuit is small enough to avoid a serious irregularity. Talking currents are put out on the toll line through this transformer. The received transmission is obtained from a high impedance bridge across the midpoints of two of the windings of the three-winding transformer. Amplifiers C_1 and C_2 introduce sufficient gain to overcome the losses due to the inefficient coupling with the telephone line. The rest of the circuit at the intermediate point is the same as Figs. 6 and 7, the local speaker being heard by his own audience by means of transmission delivered through by-pass F. A modification of the arrangement of Fig. 8 can, of course, be used with a four-wire toll circuit.

Arrangements for Armistice Day, 1921

Fig. 9 shows the circuit which was employed on Armistice Day, 1921, when audiences of 100,000 people at Arlington, 35,000 people at New York and 20,000 people at San Francisco, joined in the services at the burial of the Unknown Soldier. This was the first time that audiences at more than one distant point were simultaneously addressed from one point by means of the public address system.

At Arlington three different transmitters T_2, T_3 and T_4 were used for the different parts of the ceremonies. T_2 was used for the musical selections, T_3 for the speeches made in the amphitheatre, and T_4 for the speeches at the grave of the Unknown Soldier. Another transmitter T_1 was provided for the use of an announcer who kept the audiences at New York and San Francisco advised of the proceedings. The speech currents leaving these transmitters were brought up to moderate volume by means of amplifiers A_2 and A_1, the former taking care in turn of the three different transmitters employed during the ceremonies.

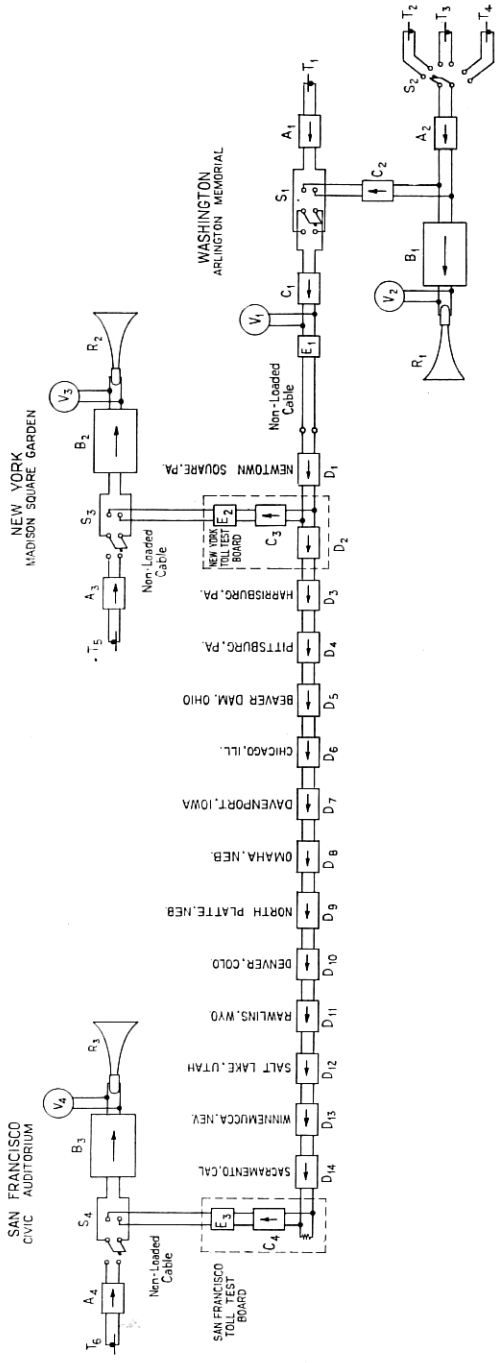

Fig. 9—Circuit Used for Ceremonies on Armistice Day, 1921.

The voice currents from the transmitters which were employed for the ceremonies, after passing through amplifier A_2, separated into two branches, one branch going to the local amplifier B_1, which supplied the local loud speakers R_1, the other going to the telephone circuit through amplifier C_2, switch S_1 and amplifier C_1. The switch S_1 was provided for connecting either the announcing transmitter T_1 or one of the transmitters for picking up the ceremonies to the end of the toll line. V_1 and V_2 are volume indicators, V_1 being employed to indicate that the proper power was being put into the toll line, while V_2 furnished an indication of the volume which was being delivered by the projector group R_1. During the ceremonies the amplifier C_2 was continuously adjusted so as to deliver proper volume to the long distance telephone circuit, the volume indicator V_1 making it possible to keep the volume applied to the toll line within close limits. At the same time independent adjustments were made of the amplifier B_1 to take care of the varying conditions introduced by the different talking conditions as well as the varying conditions introduced by shifting of the crowds listening to the ceremonies.

After leaving the amplifier C_1 at Arlington, the voice currents first passed through a non-loaded section of cable whose distortion was corrected by equalizer E_1. A non-loaded 8-gauge open-wire circuit carried the voice currents to New York City. At this point, the circuit again branched, one branch delivering a part of the voice currents to the apparatus at Madison Square Garden, the other branch going to San Francisco over one of the non-loaded No. 8-gauge transcontinental circuits. The arrangements employed at Madison Square Garden and at the Civic Auditorium in San Francisco were similar, switches being provided at each point to connect to the projector groups the circuit from Arlington or from the local transmitter.

The difficulties involved in transmitting voice currents for the first time to loud speaker installations at distant points, as well as the great importance of the occasion, made it necessary to take elaborate precautions in order to insure the success of the undertaking. The long distance telephone circuits were carefully inspected ahead of time and all of the amplifiers and other apparatus employed were subjected to numerous careful tests. For checking the complete circuit, alternating currents of different frequency were applied at Arlington and measured simultaneously at New York and San Francisco. The curve on Fig. 1 was obtained from the results of one of the measurements made on this occasion.

To guard against possibility of failure of the circuits, emergency circuits were provided, these emergency circuits taking different

routes wherever possible. Fig. 10 shows the network of long distance circuits which was set up for this occasion. The solid lines in this figure indicate telephone circuits while the broken lines indicate telegraph circuits. The latter were for the purpose of transmitting orders

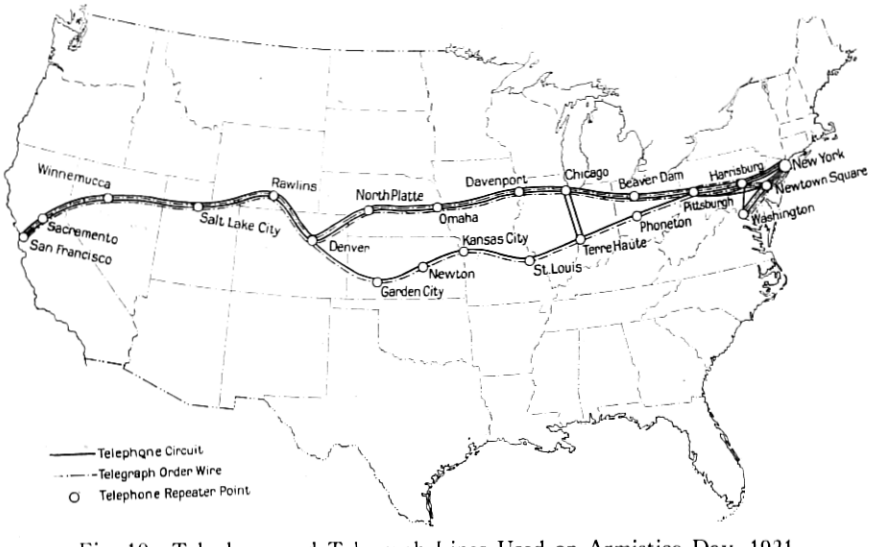

Fig. 10—Telephone and Telegraph Lines Used on Armistice Day, 1921

between different units of the operating organization at different points.

At Arlington the nature of the ceremonies and the place in which they were held presented many difficulties from the acoustic standpoint. The main addresses were made in an open amphitheatre surrounded by a double colonnade of marble. The platform on which the speakers were located was partially covered by a marble arch. The floor of the amphitheatre is of cement on which are arranged marble benches. Temporary seats also were placed on top of the colonnade. During the ceremonies large crowds surrounded the amphitheatre on all sides. The arrangement of the amphitheatre and the surroundings is shown by Fig. 11.

In order that the crowds outside of the amphitheatre might hear the speakers, loud speaking receivers and their associated projectors were placed on top of the colonnade. They were arranged in four groups as shown on Fig. 11, the projectors referred to, being numbered from 1 to 21 inclusive. Those in the east group were on top of the structure forming the main entrance to the amphitheatre. The

projectors were carefully directed to cover uniformly the area around the amphitheatre and were supplied with sufficient power so that the speaker could be heard for at least a thousand feet from the outside of the amphitheatre. It was found, however, that while these projectors are highly directive, some of the sound from them could be heard inside the amphitheatre. This sound leakage at the western side was particularly serious because of the fact that it reached the rear seats inside of the amphitheatre sufficiently far enough ahead of the corresponding sounds directly from the speaker to be noticeable.

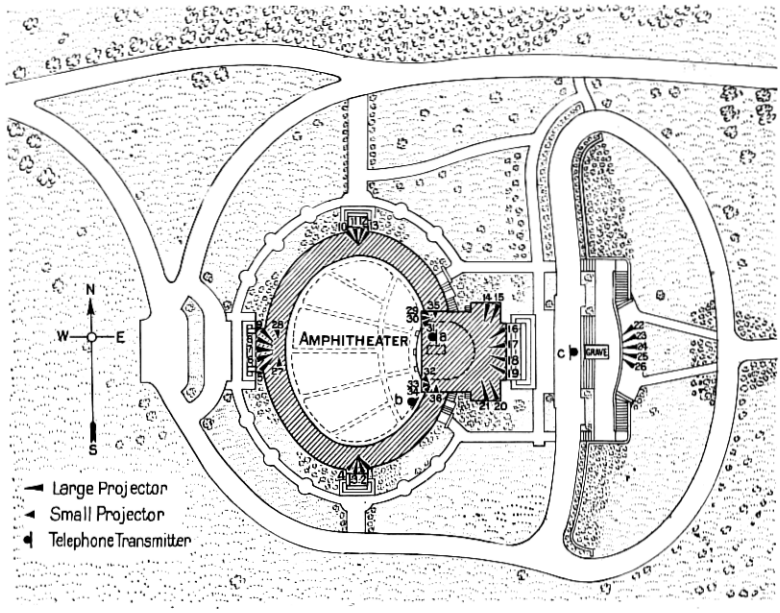

Fig. 11—Arrangement of Projectors at Arlington Amphitheater

To overcome this, the small projectors 29, 31, 32 and 34, placed on top of the arch over the platform, were directed at the rear seats and given sufficient volume output to overcome the sound reaching these seats from the loud speakers on the colonnade.

The adjustment of the power to these small projectors required great care because if given too great volume, bad reflections would be set up in the amphitheatre. On the other hand if this volume were not great enough, the outside projectors would cause serious interference. The small projectors 27 and 28 were used to overcome the sound leakage effects on the top of the west side of the colonnade.

The projectors 35 and 36 covered the top of the colonnade on the east side.

Fig. 11 shows also the location of the three transmitters used during the ceremonies, *a*, on the platform for the speakers, *b*, in front of one of the boxes in which were placed the singers and behind which was located the band, and *c*, at the grave. When the transmitter at the grave was tested it was found that serious interference was obtained between the speaker's voice and the sound from the projectors 16 to 19 inclusive. For the ceremonies at the grave, therefore, these loud speakers were disconnected and those numbered 22 to 26 used instead. Also in order to properly cover the inside of the amphitheatre during the ceremonies at the grave, the small projectors 30 and 33 were used. These were located on the arch over the platform and were directed at the front seats in the amphitheatre.

The projectors were divided up into a number of small groups and so connected that the volume of sound delivered by each group could be varied without affecting the other groups. This was necessary in arriving at the power to be delivered by each projector to give uniform distribution and to avoid interference between different groups.

By means of these arrangements all parts of the ceremonies were carried to all parts of the audience at the National Cemetery and were also delivered by means of the lines to the audiences in the distant cities.

At New York, a group of fifteen loud speakers was used in Madison Square Garden to satisfactorily reach all parts of the audience and a group of twenty-one loud speakers was suspended outside the building for the outside audience. At San Francisco, ten loud speakers were used in the Civic Auditorium and seven outside.

Use of Public Address System Apparatus with Radio

When radio broadcasting came into general use, the apparatus and methods which had been developed for the public address system were applied to this new field as it also demands high quality reproduction for speech and music. The transmitters and amplifiers associated with them in the public address system are used in radio broadcasting studios for delivering speech frequency electrical power to the radio transmitter. Loud speaking receivers and amplifiers for delivering sufficient power to operate them are used with many of the radio receiving sets.

The methods which have been employed to connect public address system transmitters with toll lines are being used for the broadcasting by radio of speeches and music given at points remote from the

radio station. In such cases the transmitter and its associated amplifier are operated and controlled in the same way as described above for toll lines. In some cases the radio station is in the same city as the place where the speech or music is given and in other cases the two have been in different cities. In the first case the output of the transmitter amplifier is carried to the radio station over non-loaded cable circuits which are equalized by means of distortion correction networks to have uniform efficiency over a wide frequency range, in some cases up to 5000 cycles. Where the two points are in different cities, the non-loaded cable circuit goes to the toll office and there is connected to the toll lines which are operated in the same manner as described above for loud speaker use.

For some of the higher grade music, such as that given by symphony orchestras, the less efficient, but slightly higher quality condenser type transmitter has been used instead of the double button carbon type. This requires the use of an additional two stage amplifier in front of the regular three stage transmitter amplifier.

The output of the transmitter amplifiers is controlled with the aid of a volume indicator bridged across the output terminals of the amplifier. For best results, particularly in reproducing music, it is necessary to adjust the gain of these amplifiers to compensate partially for the large range in the volume of the music. If the amplifiers are set high enough in gain to send through the low passages of the music with sufficient volume so that it will override the static and the interference from other sending stations, the loud parts of the music will seriously overload the radio transmitter system, unless it is of very large capacity, and will in general overload the receiving sets. Furthermore putting out these loud parts at the same relative level with respect to the low passages as they are given by the orchestra, makes the interference between radio stations more serious. In some orchestral concerts the power amplification of the transmitter amplifier has been adjusted over a range of more than a hundred to one, these changes being made, however, so that they were not noticed by those listening to the concert by radio.

Proper volume control is very important in picking up such music for radio broadcasting. The lack of such control is responsible for many of the poor results that are being obtained. In this connection, the location of the transmitter with respect to the various instruments in the orchestra or smaller combination of instruments, so as to maintain in the reproduced music the proper balance between the several parts is, of course, of great importance.

An interesting illustration of the combination of the public address

system, telephone lines and radio broadcasting was used in connection with reporting a football game played in Chicago in the fall of 1922. By means of high quality transmitters and amplifiers located at the football field, announcements of the plays and the applause of the spectators were delivered to a circuit extending to the toll office in Chicago. This circuit was connected there to a toll line to New York where it delivered the telephonic currents to a radio broadcasting transmitter. In Park Row, in New York City, was located a truck on which was mounted a radio receiving set arranged to operate a public address system. By this means the reports of the plays of the football game in Chicago were delivered to a large crowd in the streets of New York.